

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-09 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9322

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OECD FOR US DEL AD HOC MEETING ON DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UNGA

SUBJ: UNGA 7TH SPECIAL SESSION PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

1. FIRST SESSION OF PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR UNGA 7TH
SPECIAL SESSION OPENED QUIETLY WITH REGIONAL GROUPS
IN DISARRAY OVER CANDIDATES FOR COMMITTEE BUREAU
POSITIONS AND LITTLE EVIDENCE OF EAGERNESS FOR SUBSTANTIVE
DISCUSSIONS.

2. COMMITTEE OFFICERS: ON BASIS OF NOMINATION BY MEXICO,
"IN THE NAME OF THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF 77," COMMITTEE
ELECTED BENNANI (MOROCCO) TO CHAIR. WEO GROUP CHOSE NOT
TO SEEK RAPPORTEUR POSITIONS IN FACE OF FRENCH OBJECTION
ON GROUNDS THAT VICE PRESIDENCY MORE INFLUENTIAL. FYI:
FOR THEIR OWN REASONS, FRENCH ARE PIQUED IN RE AUSTRALIA
GENERALLY AND TURKEYS CANDIDACY AT COUNSELLOR
LEVEL IN PARTICULAR. END FYI. INDIA AND PAKISTAN NOW
VYING FOR THAT OFFICE. WEO'S WILL NOMINATE DUTCH FOR VICE
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CHAIRMAN; YUGOSLAVIA SELECTED BY EE'S. LATINS

DO NOT HAVE CANDIDATE.

3. ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS; WE GATHER FROM INFORMAL CONTACTS THAT THERE IS MORE THAN A LITTLE SENTIMENT IN FAVOR OF THIRD SESSION OF PREPCOM IN AUGUST, REPORTING TO SHORT RESUMED ECOSOC. SOME DELEGATIONS (INCLUDING OURSELVES) ARGUING THAT DECISION ON THIS SHOULD BE LEFT TO PREPCOM AT SECOND SESSION, OR ECOSOC. WE HAVE FOUND LITTLE SENTIMENT FOR MOVING SITE OF SECOND PREPCOM SESSION TO GENEVA.

4. OPENING SESSION SPEECHES BY VAN LAETHEM AND BENNANI NON-CONTROVERSIAL. BENNANI NOTABLY CALLED ON COMMITTEE TO FOCUS ON ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS AND NOT ENGAGE IN "GENERAL DEBATE" ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES.

5. ONLY OTHER SPEAKER AT ONE SESSION HELD MARCH 3 WAS UK WHO DELIVERED PUNCHY SPEECH COVERING BOTH GENERAL APPROACH TO SPECIAL SESSION AND CONCRETE PROPOSALS FOR ITS ORGANIZATION. SUGGESTED THREE-TIER APPROACH AIMED AT PRODUCING: (A) GENERAL STATEMENT -- PERHAPS NEGOTIATED BY MINISTERS -- ON BROAD COMMITMENT TO CHANGE AND IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPMENT FOCUS; (B) SPECIFIC PROPOSALS IN LIMITED NUMBER OF AREAS -- FOR EXAMPLE, COMMODITIES -- ON WHICH INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY PREPARED TO MOVE AHEAD; AND (C) DELINEATION OF THOSE AREAS ON WHICH AGREEMENT NOT REACHED AND OF PROGRAM FOR CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS ON THEM, WITHIN CONTEXT OF "FIRST TIER STATEMENT." WHILE QUESTION OF STRUCTURAL CHANGE MIGHT WELL BE PURSUED IN "SECOND TIER," UK FELT IT MIGHT BE WISER TO ALLOW WORK ON STRUCTURE TO FOLLOW AND FLOW FROM DECISIONS ON SUBSTANCE.
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